

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-3: (canceled).

4 (currently amended): A low-noise transformer characterized in that the transformer core formed by laminating n pieces of electrical steel sheets has viscoelastic layers 30 μ m or more in thickness ~~placed~~ inserted at random at m gaps among the n-1 gaps of laminated layers, m satisfying the following formula:

$$3 \leq (n-1)/m \leq 30.$$

Claims 5 and 6: (canceled).

7 (currently amended): A low-noise transformer according to ~~claim 6~~ claim 4 wherein said viscoelastic layer has a loss factor with one or more peaks at temperatures within a range from 20 to 200°C.

Claims 8 and 9: (canceled).